## REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated February 24, 2004. Claims 1 to 33 and 40 to 50 remain in the application, with Claims 34 to 39 having been canceled. Claims 1, 17, 33 and 50 are the independent claims herein. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,670,974 (McKnight). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns displaying information about peripheral devices on a display screen. According to the invention, when a program for displaying the status of peripheral devices connected to a communication link is activated, an operation is performed to obtain information through the communication link of the peripheral device so that the obtained information can be displayed on the display screen. However, before the information of the peripheral devices is obtained through the communication link, information of the peripheral device that is stored in a local memory is displayed on the display screen. Then, the stored information displayed on the display screen is updated based on the information of the peripheral device obtained through the communication link. As a result, the application program can quickly display devices on the communication link based on the stored information, and can then later update the display if the information has changed from the stored information.

Referring specifically to the claims, amended independent Claim 1 is an information processing apparatus capable of activating an application for displaying on a display screen information of a peripheral device on a communication link, comprising

storage means for storing information of the peripheral device on the communication link in a resident memory, obtaining means for obtaining information of the peripheral device through the communication link when the application is activated, first display control means for displaying information on the display screen of the peripheral device on the communication link according to the information stored in the storage means before the obtaining means completes obtaining the information of the peripheral device on the communication link, and second display control means for updating a content of the information displayed by the first display control means, according to the information of the peripheral device obtained by the obtaining means.

Amended independent Claims 17, 33 and 50 are method, computer program and apparatus (in non-means-plus-function form) claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 1.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 1, 17, 33 and 50. More particularly, the applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of obtaining information of a peripheral device through a communication link when an application is activated, first display step of displaying on a display screen of information of the peripheral device on the communication link according to information stored in a storage means before completing obtaining the information of the peripheral device on the communication link, and second display step of updating a content of the information displayed by the first display step, according to the information of the peripheral device obtained by the obtaining step.

McKnight is seen to disclose a program that maintains history information of utilized resources (e.g., received e-mails, documents, etc.), as well as history information of devices that have been utilized. The history information is saved in periodic time intervals and a user can view the utilized references or devices for any particular time interval, including either a previously stored interval or the current (live) time. Thus, while McKnight may display stored information of utilized devices, and allow a user to view live information of devices, the process is performed based on the user's selection of either to view stored time interval data, or to view live data. That is, the process of McKnight is simply different from the present invention in which the stored information is displayed when the application is activated and before the information is obtained through the communication link, and then the displayed information is updated based on the obtained information. Accordingly, Applicant fails to see where McKnight performs the claimed process of obtaining information of the peripheral device through the communication link when the application is activated, first display control step for displaying on the display screen information of the peripheral device on the communication link according to the information stored in the storage means before the obtaining means completes obtaining the information of the peripheral device on the communication link, and second display control step for updating a content of the information displayed by the first display control step, according to the information of the peripheral device obtained by the obtaining means.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, amended independent Claims 1, 17, 33 and 50 are not believed to be anticipated by McKnight.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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